



Brenda Fitzgerald, MD, Commissioner

Nathan Deal, Governor

2 Peachtree St NW, 15th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3142
www.health.state.ga.us

December 1, 2011

Dear Provider:

The Woman's Right to Know Act (WRTK), O.C.G.A. § 31-9A-1 *et seq.*, requires physicians performing abortions in a licensed abortion facility to submit to the Department of Public Health (DPH), a copy of the reporting form described in O.C.G.A. § 31-9A-6(a).

WRTK requires that, inter alia, pregnant women seeking an abortion are offered the opportunity to view an ultrasound and to hear the fetal heartbeat. Geographically-indexed information regarding the availability of free ultrasounds must also be made available. Additionally, you are required to report the number of females given the opportunity to view the fetal image and to hear the fetal heartbeat, and the number who elected to view the sonogram and the number who elected to listen to the fetal heartbeat, if present. Reporting requirements are listed in O.C.G.A. § 31-9A-6.

Physicians performing abortions under these laws must complete and submit the WRTK Annual Reporting Form on or before February 28 of every calendar year. The form may be accessed at <http://health.state.ga.us/wrtk/physicians.asp>. Physicians, who have not submitted the required reporting form within a grace period of 30 days following the due date, shall be subjected to a late fee of \$500 for that period, and the same fee for each additional 30 day period or portion thereof. DPH will report physicians who fail to comply with the WRTK requirements to the Georgia Composite Medical Board. The statutes referenced in this letter may be accessed at <http://www.legis.state.ga.us>.

If you have questions about the reporting requirements, please contact the Maternal and Child Health Program, Perinatal/Women's Health Unit at (404) 651-7691 or by email at wrtkinfo@dhr.state.ga.us.

Sincerely,

Brian C. Castrucci, MA
Director, Maternal and Child Health and WIC Programs

BCC/pw